

## **Federal Grant Will Help Keep Local School Children Safe**

Toms River, NJ – Congressman John Adler today announced that the Stafford Township School District will receive \$149,562 from the U.S. Department of Education (DOE). The funds will be used to implement the DOE's Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Program.

"As municipalities deal with severe budget constraints, we cannot compromise the safety of our children," Congressman John Adler said. "New Jersey families already pay too much in property taxes. Stafford Township residents deserve their fair share of federal resources."

"It is critical that our school system work with local law enforcement to keep our children safe," said Stafford Mayor John McMenamin. "I applaud Congressman Adler's efforts to make sure we have the critical resources to plan for Stafford's schoolchildren's safety."

The purpose of the DOE's REMS grant program is to provide federal funds to improve a local educational agency's emergency management plans. The REMS program enables school districts to develop improved safety plans in all four phases of emergency management: prevention-mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Typical activities performed by grantees include reviewing existing plans, conducting vulnerability assessments, providing emergency management training, purchasing safety equipment and engaging in simulated crisis drills.